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INTERVIEW WITH HANDU KARI

25 JUNE, 1965

SOURCE: Mr. Kari is a former Estonian Police Commissioner born in Varangu, Jarva-
maa (where Heine operated as a partisan). Was stationed at Paide during the German
occupation. He has withdrawn himself from Estonian activities, however, seems to be
very cooperative and displays a good knowledge of people and events. He is the father
of LEL Secretary, Maido Kari. Address: 126 Ramsdel Avenue, Buffalo, New York. Telo-
phone TR 6-5408.

In 1940 after the Soviet takeover, Kari was discharged from the police. He spent
his time thereafter by attending Tartu University. He resided at 27 Kuu Street with
another former policeman named Kaarsoo. Kaarsoo's father was a janitor in the house
where they lived which was owned by Mr. Tobre. Tobre's son, Eduard, lived in the
same house attending Tartu Gymnasium (evening high school) and was a schoolmate of
Heine.

During the October festival (7 November, 1940), Eduard Tobre, with the assistance
of the janitor of the Town Hall, secretly replaced the Soviet flag with the Estonian
flag. Soon thereafter Tobre was expelled from school. After Christmas of 1940 Tobre
and five others, including Heine, planned to escape to Finland. Tobre brought home
a brand new light machine gun which he probably obtained through his contacts with
former Estonian officers. In January, 1941, Tobre and four others made their escape.
Heine refused to join them and stayed behind. Mr. Kari heard later that when the boys
left the coast there was some firing. Later he found out from two Estonians who re-
turned from Finland that Tobre had made good his escape, had returned to Estonia as
a Finnish paratrooper and was killed in a battle with the Russians near Kautla.

Approximately in 1958 or 1959 when Heine delivered a speech at Niagara Falls,
Kari questioned Heine about the flag incident and Eduard Tobre. Heine did not offer
any comments, except to mention that he had not heard about Tobre's later fate and
stated that Tobre was a real good man.

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Mr. Kari believes that Heine could not have been arrested until January or February of 1941. He states that there was no organized underground movement at that time and that Heine could not have been a youth leader or any other leader, because these facts certainly would have come to light when Germans moved in in the summer of 1941.

Heine's father and uncle come from Hiiumaa (second largest island on the west coast of Estonia). Their family name originally was Hein (means "hay" in Estonian). When Heine's father started his piano business in the 1930's, the name was changed to Heine on insistence of Mrs. Heine who had pseudo-Germanistic feelings. Eerik Heine's uncle was a forester in Estonia and still goes by the name of Hein.

Following Heine's speech at Niagara Falls, Olaf Tammark also made a speaking visit. Mr. Kari recalls that the only difference between the speeches was that Heine talked about himself while Tammark spoke about the activities of others.

During the German occupation Mr. Kari had some responsibility for dairy production in the Paide area. He does not believe that there could possibly have been two tons of butter in the dairy at Vageva as described in the book "Rain for the River". The entire description of the raid at this dairy is fishy. The trip to the dairy took too long for the distances described. The description of scenery and the route does not correspond to actuality.

Mr. Kari has heard that the former Township Secretary of Varangu, Mr. Toomsalu, now residing in Toronto, Canada, was visited by his mother from Estonia a couple of years ago. When discussing the fate of acquaintances in that area, sharp discrepancies were noted in the stories told by Mr. Toomsalu's mother what Heine had told previously. Mr. Kari does not believe that Mr. Toomsalu's mother had any reason to lie about what has happened to their acquaintances in Estonia.

Mr. Kari claims to know all of the more important police officials and their families in Estonia. He does not recall anyone who would match the description of Karin, the wife of a former police official described by Heine as a partisan.

Mr. Kari knows Eugene Raid from Minnesota as a positive type.

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INTERVIEW WITH HEINO JOE
24 JUNE, 1965

Heino Joe characterized the pertinent people as follows:

Parnoja (one of the owners of the factory where Heino works) - a former lieutenant in the Estonian Cavalry Regiment. Generally leaves the impression that he is stupid, but is really quite clever at the same time.

Kirik (whose brother Heino claims to have brought back from Siberia) - has his own insurance agency in Toronto, is a quiet type and keeps away from Estonian activities. A family man with a son and a daughter.

Orm, Hugo (Heino lived with him for a few years). An extremely sly character. Occasionally tries to play up to you. Orm is quite ruthless, has had trouble with his laborers with unpaid wages. He enjoys intrigues.

Vabamäe, Arvo - a straightforward fellow.

Viirlaid, Arved - a heavy drinker, when drunk has a tendency to praise everyone. Has his own printing shop. His wife is quite prudish and appears embarrassed about her husband's drinking habits.

Tuulik, Evald - Another Estonian named Kahro told H. Joe that Tuulik displayed communist sympathies during the Soviet occupation. When the Germans came into Estonia Tuulik was arrested by them and brought to Estonian "self-defense" unit where Kahro was a member, being accused of taking pictures of German military installations. Tuulik asked Kahro to retrieve the films from his home which Kahro did. Through Kahro's assistance, Tuulik was released. Tuulik emigrated to Canada from Australia. H. Joe knows him as a "dandy". He is active at the Estonian House in Toronto in selling the shares. Tuulik favored the gang associated with the ETA bulletins, however, attempted double play by urging that H. Joe bring this matter to the attention of the Mounted Police. Tuulik does not drink.

COMMENT: In May, 1965, Tuulik quite unexpectedly, visited his wartime friend, Elmer Koppel, who is the Chairman of the LEL in Lakewood, N. J. Koppel knew Tuulik in POW camp in Germany since April, 1945, but has had little contact with him ever since. Tuulik expressed an interest in the relations between the respective

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organizations in the U.S.A. and Canada. He described some of the Canadian personalities in quite correct terms, however, there is no mention of Heine in Koppel's report. It is not impossible that in the person of Evald Tuulik we are dealing with an agent provocateur. This requires further checking.

H. Joe reports that during a meeting of the Estonian Central Council in Canada, Heine complained that FBI had followed him in the United States and forwarned people at places he was supposed to visit during his movie tour. The name of Ilmar Raamot was mentioned by him as the source of the accusations. Raus' name did not come up. Heine claimed that the FBI is being influenced by Jews and communists and asked for the assistance of the Estonian Central Council. H. Joe stated that the FBI is the watchdog of our friend and you don't kick the friend's dog for barking. Thereafter, Heine broke into tears, upon which Heino Joe told Heine that no personal insult was intended.